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All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

Reflections on gun control by a Second Amendment advocate

By Robert A. Levy
In the aftermath of the horrific
and heart-rending tragedy at Sandy
Hook Elementary, our gun laws should
and will be re-evaluated. But the
process must be measured and
dispassionate. And before we embark
on a crusade for new controls, let's
remember a few facts:

First, random multi-victim killings are a fraction of 1 percent of all murders in the United States. Regrettably, they will occur even where stringent gun controls are imposed. In Norway, with tight controls and licensing, Anders Breivik gunned down 69 people. Here, our worst incident killed 38 elementary school children in Michigan. The weapon of choice was bombs, not guns. From a historical perspective, U.S. gun controls from 2000 to date have been relatively restrictive. Part of that time, we had a ban on assault weapons. The entire time, we had background checks. Nonetheless, random mass killings occurred three times more often since 2000 than over the decade of the '80s, when gun controls were weaker.

Second, the evidentiary debate in peer-reviewed journals centers on the question of whether gun laws such as right-to-carry reduce violent crime or have no significant effect. Despite dozens of studies, no reliable evidence indicates that such laws increase crime. The two most exhaustive studies on gun control were conducted by the National Academy of Sciences and the Centers for Disease Control. Neither agency could be accused of favoring the gun lobby. In 2004, the National Academy reviewed 253 journal articles, 99 books

and 43 government publications evaluating 80 gun-control measures. Researchers could not identify a single gun-control regulation that meaningfully reduced violent crime, suicide, or accidents. In 2003, the CDC reported on ammunition limits, restrictions on purchase, waiting periods, registration, licensing, child access prevention and zero-tolerance laws. Conclusion: None of the laws demonstrably reduced gun violence.

Third, guns are already the most heavily regulated consumer product in the U.S. Handguns are the only consumer product that cannot be purchased outside the buyer's state of residence. Firearms retailers, wholesalers, and manufacturers all require federal licenses. Each retail sale must be pre-approved by government. Nationwide, thousands of laws regulate who can own a gun, how it can be purchased, and where it can be possessed and used.

Overall, I am skeptical about the efficacy of gun regulations that are imposed almost exclusively on persons who are not part of the problem. Drug legalization would radically reduce gun violence overnight. Armed guards at schools and better detection and treatment of mental illness should help. The NRA thinks so, and I agree. But the NRA is less convincing in its opposition to a ban on magazines with 20 or more rounds, a sensibly refined version of the assault weapons ban, and background checks (if they can be completed in no more than 24 hours) on private sales at aun shows.

With regard to further regulations, the Supreme Court has directed government to certify two essential points: First, the proposals will make us safer. Second, the same ends could not be attained without unduly

compromising individual rights that are secured by the Second Amendment. So far, the regulators have not met that burden. – *National Law Journal* February 11th 2013

Robert A. Levy is Chairman of the Cato Institute

The Year in Hate and Extremism

By Mark Potok, Senior Fellow
Capping four years of
explosive growth sparked by the
election of America's first black
president and anger over the economy,
the number of conspiracy-minded
antigovernment "Patriot" groups reached
an all-time high of 1,360 in 2012 [1039
hate groups and 341 militia groups],
while the number of hard-core hate
groups remained above 1,000.

The furious reaction to the Obama administration's gun control proposals is reminiscent of the anger that greeted the 1993 Brady Bill and the 1994 ban on assault weapons. Those bills, along with what was seen by the right as the federal government's violent suppression of political dissidents at Waco, Texas, and Ruby Ridge, Idaho, in the early 1990s, led to the first wave of the Patriot movement that burst into public consciousness with the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The number of Patriot groups peaked in 1996 at 858, more than 500 fewer than in 2012.

For many, the election of America's first black president symbolizes the country's changing demographics, with the loss of its white majority predicted by 2043.

While the number of hate groups remained essentially unchanged — 1,018 in 2011; 1,007 in 2012 — the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) count of 1,360 Patriot groups was up about 7% from 2011. The Patriot

movement generally believes that the federal government is conspiring to take Americans' guns and destroy their liberties as it paves the way for a global "one-world government."

When the Sandy Hook Elementary School mass murder of 26 children and adults in Connecticut actually did spark gun control efforts that clearly had not been in the Obama administration's plans, the reaction on the political right seemed to border on hysteria.

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) proposed a law that would nullify any executive gun control actions, accusing the president of having a "king complex." Lawmakers in Arizona, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee proposed laws to prevent federal gun control from applying to their states.

Richard Mack, a former Arizona sheriff who [successfully] sued the Clinton administration over the Brady Bill's imposition of background checks on gun buyers, claimed that of 200 sheriffs he'd met with, most "have said they would lay down their lives first rather than allow any more federal control."

"MARTIAL LAW IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOW A VERY REAL POSSIBILITY!" added the ConservativeDaily.com's Tony Adkins, responding to Obama's use of executive orders to further gun control with a doomsday prediction that could have come straight from the Patriot movement. "SUSPENSION OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION IS A VERY REAL POSSIBILITY!"

Even further to the right. Chuck Baldwin, a Montana-based Patriot leader long associated with the Constitution Party, made the unusual claim that Christ had ordered his disciples to carry "their own personal arms" and vowed to refuse to register or surrender his firearms. The Oath Keepers, a conspiracy-oriented Patriot group of current and former military and law enforcement officials, issued a threat — "MESSAGE TO THE OATH BREAKERS AND TRAITORS: We will never disarm". Judicial Watch founder Larry Klayman called the proposals "a declaration of war against the American people". The one sector of the radical right that shrank dramatically last year was the "nativist extremist" groups that confront or physically harass suspected unauthorized immigrants. From a 2010 high of 319 groups, they fell to 38 groups.

Even before serious talk of gun control began in, the far right was already in something of a meltdown in the immediate aftermath of Obama's re-

election. Hundreds of thousands of Americans signed petitions seeking the secession of each of the 50 states. Right-wing outfits like TeaParty.org said a "Communist coup" was under way. The anti-gay Family Research Council charged Obama with "dismantling" the country.

To the surprise of many prognosticators, anti-black racism in America — not just that limited to the far right — actually rose over the four years of Obama's first term. A 2012 Associated Press poll found 51% of Americans expressed explicitly anti-black attitudes, compared to 48% in 2008, while 56% showed implicitly anti-black attitudes, up from 49% four years earlier.

Some broad social progress that did occur last year. A December *USA Today* poll found that 53% of Americans now support same-sex marriage, up dramatically from 1996, when 27% supported such unions.

The American Family Association issued predictions that conservative Christians will be treated like African Americans before the civil rights movement, that the state will take charge of children at birth, and that cities with names like St. Petersburg will be forced to change their names. Peter LaBarbera of Americans for Truth About Homosexuality said the 2012 election of openly gay Tammy Baldwin to a Senate seat representing Wisconsin signaled that America is "falling apart."

Another factor driving the expansion of the radical right has been the mainstreaming of formerly marginal conspiracy theories. The latest and most dramatic example may be the completely baseless claim that Agenda 21 — a United Nations sustainability plan that was signed by President George H.W. Bush but has no mandatory provisions whatsoever — is part of a plan to impose socialism on America and strip away private property rights.

The radical right last year produced more than its fair share of political violence. Most dramatically, a neo-Nazi gunman stormed into a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, murdering six people before killing himself. In Georgia officials arrested 10 people who were allegedly part of a plot to take over the Army's Fort Stewart.

Then, this January, an Alabama high school student was arrested for allegedly plotting to attack his black and gay classmates and bomb his school.

These were only the latest incidents of just over 100 domestic radical-right plots, conspiracies and

racist rampages that the SPLC has counted since the Oklahoma City bombing left 168 men, women and children dead in 1995.

Now, it seems likely that the radical right's growth will continue. Even before the election last year, selfdescribed Patriots sounded ready for action. "Our Federal Government is just a tool of International Socialism now. operating under UN Agendas not our American agenda," the United States Patriots Union wrote last year in a letter "sent to ALL conservative state legislators, all states." "This means that freedom and liberty must be defended by the states under their Constitutional Balance of Power, or we are headed to Civil War wherein the people will have no choice but to take matters into their own hands."

-- SPLC Intelligence Report, Spring 2013, Issue: Number 149

Ed.: Well, the militia didn't make SPLC's much slandered "hard core hate group" list this time around, but it's not likely they've forgotten us.

Resisters Stand Alone

marks 70th 2013 the anniversary of the execution of five Munich University students and their philosophy professor who were members of the White Rose resistance movement in Nazi Germany. The BBC last week interviewed the 99-year-old Liselotte Furst-Ramdohr, who hid leaflets for the group and helped make stencils used to paint slogans on walls. The six White Rose members managed to distribute thousands of anti-Nazi leaflets before they were arrested by the Gestapo and guillotined. The text of their sixth and final set of leaflets was smuggled out of Germany by the resistance leader Helmuth James Graf von Moltke, who was arrested in 1944 and hanged by the Nazis in January 1945. Copies of the leaflets' language were dropped over Germany by Allied planes in July 1943.

The White Rose has been lionized by postwar Germans—one of its members, Alexander Schmorell, was made a saint by the Russian Orthodox Church last year, and squares and schools in Germany are named for the resisters—but in the BBC interview Furst-Ramdohr curtly dismissed the adulation of the group.

"At the time, they'd have had us all executed," she said in speaking of most Germans' hatred of resisters during the war.

Although history has vindicated resistance groups such as the White Rose they were desperately

alone, reviled by the wider public and forced to defy the law, their oaths of national allegiance, and public opinion. The resisters, once exposed, were condemned in vitriolic terms by most of the German public, and their lopsided were state-choreographed lynchings. Axel von dem Bussche [the last surviving member of the inner circle of German army officers who attempted to assassinate Adolf Hitlerl said that even after the war he was spat upon as he walked down a city street. He and those like him who made a moral choice to physically defy evil teach us something extremely important about rebellion. It is, when it begins, not safe, comfortable or popular. Those rare individuals who have the moral and physical courage to resist must accept that they will be pariahs. They must live outside the law. And they must be prepared to be condemned.

"Somebody, after all, had to make a start," one of the White Rose members, Sophie Scholl, said on Feb. 21, 1943, at her trial in a Nazi court. "What we wrote and said is also believed by many others. They just don't dare express themselves as we did."

-- Chris Hedges, Feb. 24, 2013, http://readersupportednews.org

CIA Director sworn in using Constitution lacking Bill of Rights

The Senate voted 63-34 in favor of John Brennan, overcoming Rand Paul's attempt to slow the White House counter-terrorism adviser from becoming the next head of the CIA.

Paul, who spent nearly 13 hours speaking on the Senate floor, was irate about the reluctance of President Obama's administration to declare that "targeted killings" of American citizens on US soil were unconstitutional.

Attorney general Eric Holder then clarified the administration's policy and said that Obama would not use his authority to order a drone to kill an American on US soil who was "not engaged in combat."

Holder initially declined to declare the targeted killings would be unconstitutional, saying that there could be situations, similar to 9/11, in which such killings might be appropriate.

Ted Cruz, another Republican senator who tried to slow Brennan's confirmation, said that under questioning, Holder would only declare that such killings were inappropriate, but

he eventually acknowledged they would be unconstitutional.

-- Reuters 8 Mar 13

According to the White House, John Brennan was sworn in as CIA Director on a "first draft" of the Constitution.

That means, when Brennan vowed to protect and defend the Constitution, he was swearing on one that did not include the First, Fourth, Fifth, or Sixth Amendments — or any of the other Amendments now included in our Constitution.

The Bill of Rights did not become part of our Constitution until 1791, 4 years after the Constitution that Brennan took his oath on. And whether he meant to invoke this symbolism or not, the moment at which Brennan took over the CIA happened to exclude (in symbolic form, though presumably not legally) the key limits on governmental power that protect American citizens.

-- www.emptywheel.net/2013/03/08

Who needs a gun while walking a dog?

A man was shot and killed while walking his dog in Woodbridge last night. A suspect is in custody and is charged with murder.

On February 20th at 9:40PM, police responded to the 3700 block of Wertz Dr for a call of shots fired.

A description of the shooter was given to responding units. Off duty Prince William County Police Lieutenant Carlos Robles was able to detain the man, Aric Alexander SMITH, 25, of 3755 Bogner Dr in Woodbridge, following a brief struggle. The victim, identified as a Gregory Lee HOLLEY Sr., 55, of Woodbridge, was pronounced dead at the scene.

-- potomaclocal.com 2/20/2013

FBI's Demands for Private Data Struck Down by Federal Court

The FBI has suffered a dramatic setback in its use of hypersecret gagging orders in the name of national security to obtain the private data of US citizens.

A judge in a California US district court ordered the government to stop issuing "national security letters". Susan Illston said the letters, which have mushroomed since 9/11 under the Patriot Act, were unconstitutional as they breached the first amendment rights of the parties being served the

orders.

NSLs have been an increasingly important part of the government's approach to counter-terrorism. Last year the FBI sent out more than 16,000 NSLs relating to the private data - mainly financial, internet or phone records - of more than 7,000 Americans.

The FBI has been accused of abusing its powers by issuing NSLs far more extensively than in the limited counter-terrorism situations for which they were devised.

The letters are among the most secretive tools of any deployed by the US state. The demand comes with a gagging order attached - meaning that the recipient of the NSL is not allowed even to discuss the letter in public.

As an additional affront, civil liberties groups say, the FBI issues the letters without approval from a judge. Only the green light of a local FBI chief is required.

The judge's order built in a 90-day delay to allow the government to appeal. It was made in response to a case in which one of the recipients of an NSL - an unnamed telecoms company sued the FBI for breach of its rights in May 2011.

The FBI shot back by countersuing the company.

The company was represented by the Electronics Frontier Foundation, a non-profit group that advocates for public rights in the digital world. EFF senior staff attorney Matt Zimmerman said the court order had exposed the constitutional shortcomings of the NSLs.

The foundation's legal director Cindy Cohn said that the judge highlighted the First Amendment as a protection against executive surveillance power. "This small step should help restore balance between liberty and security."

-- Ed Pilkington, Guardian UK 16 Mar 13

Gun Control 'Discussion' – Where Are the Pastors?

By Pat Pine Darnell

I keep hearing that there needs to be "discussion" on gun control, but the "discussion" ends up being one sided -- the liberal, anti-Second Amendment side. But as Pastor Chuck Baldwin states: "Throughout the United States there are tens of millions of fully-armed citizens who are more than capable of defending themselves and their communities against any enemy -- whether that enemy is an internal or external one.

In the beginning of change the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. – Mark Twain

"In fact, many millions of these citizens have been trained in the US Armed Forces. Firearms -- especially semi-automatic rifles -- in the hands of American citizens is truly the only thing that stands between freedom and tyranny. That Barack Obama and Dianne Feinstein want to disarm the American people should be considered an act of war against our liberties! In other words, ladies and gentlemen, this is a line in the sand that none of us can afford to ignore."

The story of the match which ignited America's War for Independence is no longer taught in our schools, how on April 19, 1775, some 800 British troops were dispatched to Concord, Massachusetts to arrest Sam Adams and John Hancock and to seize weapons stored there. Dr. Joseph Warren sent Paul Revere to warn Pastor Jonas Clark -- at whose home the two men were staying -- and he alerted his male congregants.

About 70 men from the Church of Lexington met the Redcoats on Lexington Green. When they were commanded to lay down their arms, refused, and the British they immediately opened fire. Eiaht minutemen were instantly killed. The others returned fire in self-defense, and the shot was fired that was heard around the world! By the time the troops arrived at the Concord Bridge, a few miles away, hundreds of colonists were waiting for them with muskets in hand, and the rest, as they say, is history. "Make no mistake," Baldwin says: "Attempted gun confiscation ignited America's War for Independence." Then he quotes Pat Buchanan: "If the Federal Government attempts to confiscate the guns of the American people, there will be a revolution in this country."

Baldwin reminds us that it was a Pastor of a church and his people who were the Minutemen of Lexington. "Where are the pastors?" he asks. "They should be extolling the Biblical mandate to resist tyranny; they should already be warning their congregations of Barack Obama and Dianne Feinstein's plan to disarm them." He asks why you are still in the church if the pastor won't warn against the attack on the Second Amendment.

In the light of Baldwin's fear of the impending doom looming over our beloved and wonderful country, why has the Department of Homeland Security recently purchased 450 million rounds of hollow-point ammo? Why has the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ordered 46,000 rounds of high-powered ammo? And now the Social Security Administration is set to

purchase 174,000 rounds of ".357 Sig 124 grain bonded jacketed hollow point pistol ammunition" that will be delivered to 41 locations across the country.

I am mystified. Why is our government, while making moves toward confiscating all our guns, loading up on the most powerful ammo themselves? Enough to kill every American several times over? We must vehemently resist any attempts to infringe on our Right to Bear Arms. Without the Second Amendment we will be totally stripped of any ability to defend ourselves and our families.

Mature, thinking Americans are convinced that those who are pushing to destroy the Second Amendment and confiscate our guns have the ultimate goal of doing something to our Country that will cause our citizens to need their guns to protect themselves from the possible evil intentions of our government.

-- Letter to the Editor, Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, Arkansas, Feb. 10, 2013

Why Is Obama's Growing DHS Army Buying Armored Vehicles?

In addition to stockpiling over a billion bullets and thousands of semiautomatic weapons the feds would deny U.S. citizens, the vehicle of choice for fighting the counterinsurgency war in Iraq is appearing on U.S. streets.

The sequestration question du jour is why the Department of Homeland Security, busy releasing hundreds, if not thousands, of deportable and detained illegal aliens due to budget constraints, is buying several thousand Mine Resistant Armored Protection (MRAP) vehicles?

And just who are they intended to be used against?

This acquisition comes on top of the stockpiling by DHS of more than 1.6 billion (with a 'b') bullets of various calibers, enough by one calculation to fight the equivalent of a 24-year Iraq War, and the ordering of some 7,000 5.56x45mm NATO "personal defense weapons" (PDW) — also known as "assault weapons" when owned by civilians.

Additionally, DHS is asking for 30 round magazines that "have a capacity to hold thirty (30) 5.56x45mm NATO rounds."

The DHS (through the U.S. Army Forces Command) recently retrofitted 2,717 of these MRAP vehicles for service on the streets of the U.S. They were formerly used for counterinsurgency in Iraq.

These vehicles are specifically designed to resist mines and ambush attacks. They use bulletproof windows and are designed to withstand small-arms fire, including smaller-caliber rifles such as a .223 Remington. Does DHS expect a counterinsurgency here?

A DHS officer, Robert Whitaker, stationed in El Paso, Texas, recently proudly described the agency's new armored toy as "Mine-resistant ... we use to deliver our team to high-risk warrant services ... (with) gun ports so we can actually shoot from within the vehicle; you may think it's pretty loud but actually it's not too bad ... we have gun ports there in the back and two on the sides as well. They are designed for .50-caliber weapons."

This is needed to serve warrants? Perhaps it might have been useful at Waco.

So the question is what does DHS need 1.6 billion bullets, 7,000 Ar-15s and 2,700 armored vehicles for?

What are they anticipating or planning for, and why are few in the media and Congress asking about it, particularly in the light of daily apocalyptic bleats from the administration about sequestration cuts? -- InvestorsBusinessDaily Mar. 05, 2013

340 Sheriffs Refuse to Enforce Unconstitutional Gun Control Laws

Including Sheriff John Cooke of Weld County, Colorado, 340 sheriffs have publicly stated they *will not* enforce gun laws they believe are unconstitutional.

In response to the passage of two new gun control bills in Colorado last week, Sheriff John Cooke told the Greeley Tribune that he "won't bother enforcing the laws."

One bill requires gun buyers to pay for their own background checks, a service that was previously free and now estimated to cost the buyer \$10-\$12 per purchase. The second bill puts a 15-round limit on magazines.

Cooke says of the new laws: "They're feel-good, knee-jerk reactions that are unenforceable."

Governor John Hickenlooper is expected to sign each bill into law this week.

Cooke is part of a growing list of sheriffs that have vowed to uphold the Constitution against gun control measures.

The Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (CSPOA) has a running tally of all the sheriffs across the nation that have joined together to defend the Constitution.

At the time of this post, there are 15 sheriffs associations, 340 sheriffs, one police chief and one deputy sheriff who have stated they will not enforce any new gun laws.

-- Gregory Gwyn-Williams, Jr. www.cnsnews.com/blog Mar. 19, 2013

Ed.: There are about 3,100 county sheriffs nationwide. To date none from N.J. is listed among the 340. According to CSPOA the constitutionally-minded sheriffs nearest to New Jersey are in Putnam and Suffolk counties, New York, and Chester county, Pennsylvania.

Even Gandhi Opposed Gun Bans

In a blast to those who tote gun bans in the name of Mahatma Gandhi, it is a fact that Gandhi *openly opposed* gun bans. In fact, he proclaimed gun disarmament to be the 'blackest' deed of the British ruling period in India.

Merely posting Gandhi's quote has led to Facebook accounts with hundreds of thousands of fans to be banned. The first of which was the Facebook page of Mike Adam's NaturalNews, who shared Gandhi's quote verbatim.

The quote comes from "Mohandas Gandhi, an Autobiography." On page 446, you will find this very serious quote regarding the way in which British rulers disarmed the entire population, which ultimately led to the governmental ability to control this populace due to their inability to defend themselves. Gandhi writes: "Among the many misdeeds of British rule in India, history will look upon the Act depriving a whole nation of arms as the blackest."

So why would an individual who many would consider a prominent symbol of peace say that the absolute blackest deed of the very British rule that he fought against was to disarm the public?

Gandhi knew that when lawabiding citizens are stripped of their right to carry a weapon they become defenseless and ruthless tyrants can take over. Sound familiar? That's right, Gandhi's principles echo the very principles which the Constitution was constructed on. Gandhi highlighted the British ban on firearms an absolute tragedy and warned against its implications just as the founding fathers of the United States escaped such regulation and formulated a plan to prevent it here.

Not the same Gandhi you know? Gandhi actually advocated the

use of firearms in defense. Here we see it once more:

"Hence also do I advocate training in arms for those who believe in the method of violence. I would rather have India resort to arms in order to defend her honor than that she should in a cowardly manner become or remain a helpless witness to her own dishonor," Gandhi wrote in his work The Doctrine of the Sword.

He sees how self-defense is actually rooted in bravery: "When [violence] is offered in self-defence or for the defence of the defenceless, it is an act of bravery far better than cowardly submission."

-- Anthony Gucciardi, www.storyleak.com Mar. 17, 2013

Jail the banksters!

As the Eurozone financial crisis continues to plague Cyprus, its citizens are receiving a crash course in how an out-of-control banking industry and its corrupt banksters can bring an entire economy to its knees.

The Cypriot economy has ground to a halt, thanks to massive losses that its oversized banking sector sustained from investments in Greece and a deep recession.

Cypriots will hopefully implement better oversight and regulation over their financial industry.

That's exactly what Iceland did, and it's working wonders.

In 2008, when the global financial crisis began, Iceland was hit incredibly hard.

All three of the country's major privately owned banks collapsed, and Iceland's stock exchange plummeted. Pension funds were slashed, and businesses were wiped out.

Iceland could have responded the same way that the U.S. did, and come up with a massive bailout package to save the banks, and let their crimes go unpunished.

Or, Iceland could arrest the banksters that brought down the economy, bail out those most affected by the collapse – the average Icelanders themselves – and begin to rebuild the financial industry.

Iceland chose the latter. Jail the bums.

Since the Office of the Special Prosecutor was created in 2008, Iceland has been rounding up their banksters one after another.

In March of 2011, Robert and Vincent Tchenguiz were arrested in London, as part of the Special Prosecutor's Office investigation into the collapse of the bank Kaupthing.

In December of last year, a Reykjavik court sentenced two of the top executives at Icelandic bank Glitnir to jail time.

These are only a few of the arrests that have been made, as Iceland holds its own corrupt banksters accountable.

Meanwhile, the Wall Street banksters that brought our economy to its knees are still sitting pretty in their corner offices or retired with hundreds of millions of dollars of your money.

Just look at Jamie Dimon, CEO of JPMorgan.

In a recent report on JPMorgan's monumental multi-billion dollar trading loss, Dimon is alleged to have criminally withheld from regulators key details about the bank's daily losses.

And Dimon's actions pale in comparison to executives at the HSBC bank, who admitted in to allowing Mexican and Colombian drug cartels to launder nearly \$900 million through their bank.

Despite these egregious criminal actions, the U.S. has yet to jail a single HSBC bankster.

So, what's the bottom line?

In 2008, Iceland was in worse shape financially than just about every country in the world.

Today, Iceland is home to one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

They got from there to here by throwing their banksters in jail.

Hopefully Cyprus will take a page out of the Icelandic playbook, and lock-up the banksters.

And America should do the same thing, too!

-- truth-out.org/opinion "Cyprus ...What You Can Learn from Iceland," by Thom Hartmann 21 March 2013

Handcuffs 2.0

Ever wondered why handcuff technology hasn't progressed much in the last 50 years? Wonder no more: In late November, a company called Scottsdale Inventions filed a patent for an "Apparatus and System For Augmented Detainee Restraint."

This handy device can be "configured to administer electrical shocks when certain predetermined conditions occur" and could be activated by remote control. The patent application compares this function to the workings of a stun gun or Taser.

What's more, the cuffs could potentially be configured to administer "a liquid, a gas, a dye, an irritant, a medication, a sedative, a transdermal

medication or transdermal enhancers such as dimethyl sulfoxide, a chemical restraint, a paralytic, a medication prescribed to the detainee, and combinations thereof" without directly involving human law enforcement officials.

The cuffs could also be programmed to work like an electric dog collar, shocking a detainee if he ventures outside a pre-determined zone. But don't worry. Before the cuffs do their thing a little warning light will flash and the cuffs will beep. The application includes a photo of a prototype, which suggests these cuffs are well past concept stage and could soon be available to a cop near you.

-- www.reason.com/archives/ 2013/03/01/handcuffs

Senate votes to stop US from joining UN Arms Trade Treaty

In the last batch of amendment votes to the budget, the Senate voted on several foreign policy proposals.

Sen. James Inhore (R-Okla.) introduced an amendment that would prevent the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty in order to uphold the Second Amendment. His amendment passed on a 53-46 vote.

Republicans have been critical of President Obama's decision to consider the treaty, although Obama has said he would not vote for anything that would violate the Second Amendment.

The U.N. Arms Trade Treaty would regulate international arms sales. Negotiations end on March 28.

"We're negotiating a treaty that cedes our authority to have trade agreements with our allies in terms of trading arms," Inhofe said. "This is probably the last time this year that you'll be able to vote for your Second Amendment rights."

Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) offered an alternative amendment that clarified that under current U.S. law, treaties don't trump the Constitution and that the United States should not agree to any arms treaty that violates the Second Amendment rights. His amendment passed by voice vote.

-- http://thehill.com Mar. 23, 2013

Family's home raided over Facebook photo of child's rifle

New Jersey police and Dept. of Children and Families officials raided the home of a firearms instructor and demanded to see his guns after he posted a Facebook photo of his 11-yearold son holding a rifle.

"Someone called family service," said Evan Nappen, an attorney representing Shawn Moore. "It led to an incredible, heavy-handed raid on his house. They wanted to see his gun safe, his guns and search his house. They even threatened to take his kids."

Moore was not arrested or charged.

A DCF spokesperson would not confirm or deny an investigation or raid had taken place due to government regulations.

"The department has a child abuse hotline and anybody can make a call," spokesperson Kristen Brown said. "We are required to follow up on every single allegation."

Moore, of Carneys Point recently posted a photograph of his son wearing camouflage and holding his new .22 rifle. The child has a New Jersey hunting license and recently passed the state's hunter safety course.

The family's trouble started when Moore received an urgent text message from his wife. The Carneys Point Police Dept. and the NJDCF had raided their home.

Moore immediately called Nappen and rushed home to find officers demanding to check his guns and his oun safe.

Instead, he handed his cell phone to one of the officers – so they could speak with Nappen.

"If you have a warrant, you're coming in," Nappen told the officers. "If you don't, then you're not. That's what privacy is all about."

With his attorney on speaker phone, Moore instructed the officers to leave his home.

"I was told I was being unreasonable and that I was acting suspicious because I wouldn't open my safe," Moore wrote on the Delaware Open Carry website. "They told me they were going to get a search warrant. I told them to go ahead."

Police eventually left and never returned.

"He has a Fourth Amendment right and he's not going to give up his Fourth Amendment right or his Second Amendment right," Nappen said. "They didn't have a warrant – so see you later."

Brown said the person who reported the false allegations of abuse cannot be held liable.

"You can't be prosecuted for making an allegation of child abuse – even if it's false," she said.

Nappen said what happened to the Moore family should serve as a warning to gun owners across the nation.

"To make someone go through this because he posted a picture of his son with a .22 rifle on his Facebook page is pretty outrageous," he said. "Does that mean that anyone who posts a picture like that has to consent to a home inspection and a gun inspection? I don't think so."

Nappen said they are considering taking legal action against the state for the late night raid.

-- Todd Stearnes, http://www.humanevents.com 3/19/2013

Ed.: Noted firearms attorney Evan Nappen has an office in Eatontown, NJ. At the first sign of trouble call him at (732) 389-8888.

GirlsJustWannaHaveGuns

Regis Giles of GirlsJustWannaHaveGuns.com started a campaign for all gun owners to show their support for the NJ kid [see story above] by sending in a photo of their child posing with a firearm of their choice.

Josh Moore is the 11-year-old NJ boy who had the Department of Youth and Family Services sent to his home after his dad had posted his photo up on Facebook.

-- http://clashdaily.com/2013/03/fox-friends-pro-gun-chick-kicks-anti-gun-punks-to-curb/#ixzz2OeTfbF6M

NJM, P.O. Box 10176, Trenton New Jersey	08650
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www.njmilitia.org info@njmilitia.org

walnor@keepandbeararms.com

Middlesex County, Art (732) 607-0833 Morris County, Bill (973) 361-3241 Johnson County, TX, Earl (817) 783-2375 Wake County, NC, Dave (919) 295-4008

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